

Albion-Sheridan
Callow Co.

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



471394

October 4, 1978

Mr. Gordon Stevick
Lot #1, Crystal Lake
Cement City, Michigan 49233

Dear Mr. Stevick:

This will confirm our conversation of September 27, at your Albion-Sheridan Landfill.

It was my observation during the inspection that the site is suffering from a number of operational problems. I do not consider the landfill totally unacceptable, but do recommend that special attention be directed to the following problems:

1. Proper spreading and compaction of refuse. The refuse should be spread in layers and thoroughly compacted on a slope not exceeding 3 horizontal to 1 vertical dimension. This slope is not only most effective in space conservation but is safe for equipment operation.
2. Organization and monitoring of dumping. The various areas designated for specific wastes have not been monitored closely. Consequently the area designated for wood has been receiving a significant amount of general refuse. Your attendant must give more attention to customers to insure they unload the designated wastes only in the specified areas. Mixed wastes must go in the general refuse disposal area.
3. Proper daily cover. Our operating rules clearly require six inches of compacted cover soil over decomposable refuse by the end of every working day. There are no exceptions to this rule. I observed a considerable volume of uncovered refuse at the site.
4. Leachate generation. I noted much evidence of leachate generation in older fill areas. Not too much can be done to correct this now. The leachate is probably an indication of past poor operational practices or geological problems. Good daily cover will help retard leachate formation.

Correction of the above problems will bring the site essentially into compliance with our operating standards.

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New legislation and federal regulations are bringing new demands for evaluation of new and existing sites to determine suitability for sanitary landfill use. Your site will have to undergo such an evaluation at your expense in the near future. We are requiring a complete hydrogeological study to determine the possibility of groundwater contamination from all proposed and existing sites. The study will determine if the site can continue in use without modifications or if engineering improvements (liner, leachate collection, etc.) are necessary.

I suggest that you contact a groundwater consultant (a list is enclosed) to get some idea of the cost of having a study done. If you do not wish to further invest in the site I will establish a close-down date allowing sufficient time for the county and other responsible parties to develop alternative arrangements.

Please contact me at 517/322-1300 if you have any question.

Very truly yours,

Fred B. Kellow, Chief
Resource Recovery Division

Jerry Fore, Sanitarian
Region III

JF/ras

Enclosure

cc: Ted Havens, Calhoun County Health Department